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Dated: July 18, 2006

Signature:

(David T. Yang)

Patent  
Docket No. 393032029900

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Akio SUYAMA et al.

Serial No.: 10/032,948

Filing Date: December 26, 2001

For: DIGITAL MIXING SYSTEM, ENGINE APPARATUS, CONSOLE APPARATUS, DIGITAL MIXING METHOD, ENGINE APPARATUS CONTROL METHOD, CONSOLE APPARATUS CONTROL METHOD, AND PROGRAMS EXECUTING THESE CONTROL METHODS

Examiner: A. C. Flanders

Group Art Unit: 2615

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b. Copies of foreign documents and non-patent literature are submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

The documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b were cited in two Office Actions both mailed on March 28, 2006, directed to a foreign application and have not been previously cited.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted:

- ☒ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
- ☒ A fee is required. Accordingly, a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17) is attached to this submission in duplicate.


Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO/SB/08a/b, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief (such as payment of a fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p)) is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petition and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing (393032029900).

Dated: July 18, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By   
David T. Yang  
Registration No.: 44,415  
MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP  
555 West Fifth Street  
Los Angeles, California 90013-1024  
(213) 892-5587



ALTERNATIVE TO PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

<b>Substitute for form 1449/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/032,948
				Filing Date	December 26, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Akio SUYAMA
				Art Unit	2615
				Examiner Name	A. C. Flanders
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	393032029900

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)					
	BA	JP-2000-217199		08-04-2000	Kokai	Abstract	
	BB	JP-2000-311087		11-11-2000	Kokai	Abstract	
	BC	JP-06-269100		09-22-1994	Kokai	Abstract	
	BD	JP-06-119015		04-28-1994	Kokai	Abstract	
	BE	JP-11-317063		11-16-1999	Kokai	Abstract	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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la-866254

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no person are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>FEE TRANSMITTAL</b> <b>For FY 2006</b>		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
		Application Number	10/032,948
		Filing Date	December 26, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Akio SUYAMA
		Examiner Name	A. C. Flanders
		Art Unit	2615
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27		Attorney Docket No.	393032029900
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT</b>		(\$)	180.00

<b>METHOD OF PAYMENT</b> (check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please identify): _____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deposit Account            Deposit Account Number: 03-1952            Deposit Account Name: Morrison & Foerster LLP	
For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below <input type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayment of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayments	

<b>FEE CALCULATION (All the fees below are due upon filing or may be subject to a surcharge.)</b>							
<b>1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES</b>							
Application Type	FILING FEES		SEARCH FEES		EXAMINATION FEES		Fees Paid (\$)
	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	
Utility	300	150	500	250	200	100	
Design	200	100	100	50	130	65	
Plant	200	100	300	150	160	80	
Reissue	300	150	500	250	600	300	
Provisional	200	100	0	0	0	0	
<b>2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES</b>							
						<b>Small Entity</b>	
<b>Fee Description</b>						<b>Fee (\$)</b>	<b>Fee (\$)</b>
Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)						50	25
Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)						200	100
Multiple dependent claims						360	180
<b>Total Claims</b>		<b>Extra Claims</b>	<b>Fee (\$)</b>	<b>Fee Paid (\$)</b>	<b>Multiple Dependent Claims</b>		
_____		_____	_____	_____	<b>Fee (\$)</b>		<b>Fee Paid (\$)</b>
_____		_____	_____	_____	_____		_____
HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.							
<b>Indep. Claims</b>		<b>Extra Claims</b>	<b>Fee (\$)</b>	<b>Fee Paid (\$)</b>			
_____		_____	_____	_____			
_____		_____	_____	_____			
HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3.							
<b>3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE</b>							
If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).							
<b>Total Sheets</b>		<b>Extra Sheets</b>	<b>Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof</b>		<b>Fee (\$)</b>	<b>Fee Paid (\$)</b>	
_____		_____	_____		_____	_____	
_____ - 100 = _____		_____ / 50	_____ (round up to a whole number) x _____		_____	_____	
<b>4. OTHER FEE(S)</b>							
Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)							
Other (e.g., late filing surcharge): 1806 Submission of Information Disclosure Statement						180.00	

<b>SUBMITTED BY</b>			
Signature		Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	44,415
Name (Print/Type)	David T. Yang	Telephone	(213) 892-5587
		Date	July 18, 2006